

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A method of providing cardiac support comprising providing a first cannula body having an inlet and an outlet, a main lumen and a proximal opening and distal opening communicating with the main lumen, the first cannula body including a preformed bend near the distal opening,

providing a second cannula body having an interior lumen and a distal opening communicating with the interior lumen,

inserting the first cannula body through a first valve that leads into a heart chamber in an antegrade flow direction and through such that the distal opening of the first cannula body is located within the heart chamber,

orienting the preformed bend toward a second valve that leads out of the heart chamber to a vascular region spaced from the heart chamber in an antegrade flow direction,

inserting the second cannula body into the main lumen through the proximal opening,

advancing the second cannula body through the preformed bend to direct the second cannula body beyond the distal opening of the first cannula body, into the heart chamber and through the second valve, such that the distal opening of the second cannula body resides within the vascular region, and

bypassing the heart chamber by drawing blood into the main lumen of the first cannula body through the an inlet upstream of the first valve, and discharging conveying the blood from the main lumen of the first cannula body into the interior lumen of the second cannula body, and discharging the blood into the vascular region through the distal opening of the second cannula body outlet downstream of the second valve, thereby bypassing the heart chamber,

~~wherein the cannula includes a preformed bend sized and configured to extend within the heart chamber between the inlet and the outlet.~~

2 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 1

wherein the heart chamber is a right ventricle,

wherein the first valve is a tricuspid valve, and

wherein the second valve is a pulmonary valve.

3 (Cancelled).

4 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 3 1

wherein the heart chamber is a left ventricle,

wherein the first valve is an aortic valve, and
wherein the second valve is a mitral valve.